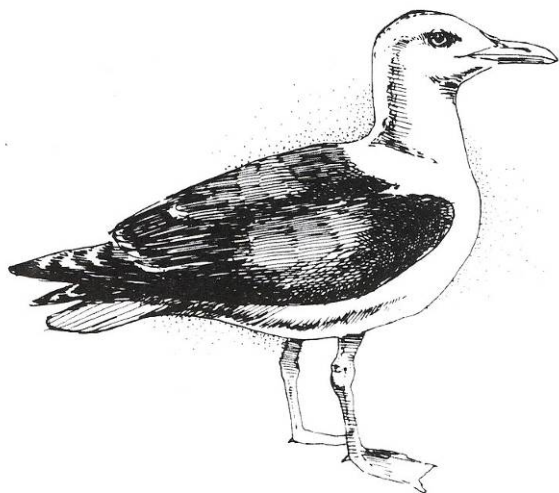




## Visitor Programs and Events – Summer 2011

### Staten Island Unit



#### What's With The ♥?

Gateway's programs are wonderful ways to stimulate your mind and your senses, but did you know that many of them provide fantastic opportunities to get some exercise? Our hikes, service projects, and paddles are great ways to get your heart going, while you enjoy the natural beauty and historic treasures that surround you. Just look for the ♥ next to the program listing for programs that require walks of a mile or more, or moderate physical exertion, and let Gateway pump you up!

#### Be Prepared to Get Outdoors! Keep Summer Safe and Have Some Fun!

Your time spent outdoors will be safe and more enjoyable if you remember a few simple tips. To safely enjoy swimming at Gateway's ocean beaches, swim only where and when surfguards are on duty. Wear sunscreen, dress in layers, and drink plenty of fluids to prevent heat stress. Protect yourself from ticks and mosquitoes with insect repellent and light colored clothing, wear sturdy shoes and tuck your pants bottoms into your socks. Bring a camera, binoculars, hand lens, and personal journal to get up close to nature and record your memorable discoveries. And don't forget to check the park website [www.nps.gov/gate](http://www.nps.gov/gate), follow us on Facebook or Twitter, or call the park for updates on program changes and park conditions. Then, get outside and have some fun!

#### Let's Move Outside Junior Ranger!

Let's Move Outside Junior Rangers is a fitness initiative dedicated to getting kids and families to take advantage of America's outdoors with active recreation and learning in National Parks. Children ages 7-12 are invited to get a healthy start to a healthy future by participating in any of the guided Jr. Ranger programs that are being offered throughout Gateway, throughout the summer. In addition, they can embark on a self-guided Jr. Ranger adventure with their families, by picking up a Jr. Ranger booklet at any visitor contact station. Junior Rangers who participate in ranger-guided programs or the self-guided program can earn a certificate, Junior Ranger badge or a special patch, while championing the Junior Ranger motto: "explore, learn and protect."

#### Directions to Staten Island Sites

##### *By Mass Transit:*

**Fort Wadsworth**  
(718) 354 – 4500

**Bus:** S51 from Staten Island Ferry Terminal to the park entrance on Bay Street.

**Great Kills Park**  
(718) 987 – 6790

**Bus:** S78 from Staten Island Ferry Terminal or the S79 from 95th Street at 4th Avenue, Brooklyn, to the park entrance.

**World War Veterans Park at Miller Field**  
(718) 351 – 6970

**Bus:** S76 from Staten Island Ferry Terminal to New Dorp Lane and entrance to Miller Field.

## Continuing Programs

### Battery Weed Open House

Battery Weed

Fort Wadsworth

Saturdays, June 25; July 9 & 23;

August 13 & 27

10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Explore the parade ground, lower casemates and replica cannon of Battery Weed. Learn about the history of Battery Weed and its importance to the security of New York Harbor while you discover its architecture and design.

### Discover Fort Tompkins

Fort Wadsworth Visitor Center

Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays

2 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Explore little known areas of this historic structure only accessible with a park ranger. Learn about coastal fortifications and get a glimpse of fort life in the 1800's. Wear sturdy footwear.

### Healthy Parks Healthy

#### People Program Series ♥

Great Kills Park Ranger Station

Wednesdays, July 6, 13, 20 & 27

11 a.m.

Join National Park Rangers and certified fitness instructors for a series of summer recreational and fitness programming. Exercise for cardiovascular health with low impact activities including biking, beginner's yoga, hiking, and fishing. Call for details and reservations: (718) 987 – 6790.

### Hoop It Up 5-on-5

#### Basketball Tournament ♥

Miller Field Ranger Station

Saturdays, July 9, 16, 23 & 30

10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Hoop it up with the National Park Service for a 5-on-5 single elimination basketball tournament. The tournament is free and for ages 10 and up. Boys and girls teams are welcome to register. Registration is required by May 29. For more information call (718) 351 – 6970.

### Introduction to Kayaking ♥

Great Kills Park Beach Center

Thursday, June 30

Wednesday, July 20

Wednesday, August 24

10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Learn the basics of kayaking. Immerse yourself in nature while you paddle along the shoreline of Great Kills Harbor. Kayaks, personal floatation devices, paddles and instructions will be provided. Children ages 6 -11 must be accompanied by an adult in a tandem kayak. Dress for getting wet, bring sunscreen and water. Space is limited. Reservations are required, call (718) 338 – 3799.

### Lantern Tours of Fort Wadsworth ♥

Fort Wadsworth Visitor Center

Thursdays, June 9 & 23; July 14

& 28; August 11 & 25

8 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Our most popular tour explores the historic sites of the fort by night. Bring a flashlight. Reservations required, call (718) 354 – 4500. *(1 mile)*

### Mont Sec House

#### Open House

Fort Wadsworth

Saturdays, June 25; July 9 & 23;

August 13 & 27

1 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Step back in time with a visit to historic Mont Sec House. Tour the home and discover how an officer and his family lived at Fort Wadsworth during the nineteenth century. For information, call (718) 354 – 4500.

## June

### Nature Fest

Great Kills

Education Field Station

Saturday, June 11

11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Join park rangers and Staten Island Science Museum naturalists for a celebration of environmental awareness and natural history discovery. For information, call (718) 354 – 4576.

### Discovering the Secrets of Sea and Sand ♥

Great Kills Park Beach Center

Parking Lot

Sunday, June 12

1 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Explore the ocean beach and discover the secret lives of animals living on the upper shore and intertidal zone. Search for mole crabs and use a plankton net to collect microscopic animals and plants. Wear sneakers. For all ages. *(1 mile)*

### Horseshoe Crab Walk ♥

Great Kills Park Beach Center

Parking Lot G

Wednesday, June 15

7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Search Crooke's Point for the intriguing horseshoe crab as this ancient species comes ashore to spawn. Reservations required, call (718) 987 – 6790. *(1 mile)*

### Jog-A-Thon ♥

Great Kills Park Entrance

Thursday, June 16

10 a.m. – 11 a.m.

Join the National Park Rangers for a jog in Great Kills Park. All ages are welcome. Registration is required by June 12; call (718) 351 – 6970. *(2 miles)*

### Jog-A-Thon ♥

Miller Field

Friday, June 17

10 a.m. – 11 a.m.

Join the National Park Service park rangers for a jog in Miller Field. All ages are welcome. Registration is required by June 12; call (718) 351 – 6970. *(2 miles)*

### **Junior Ranger:**

#### **Take a Hike ♥**

Great Kills Park  
Education Field Station  
Saturday, June 25

1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Junior Rangers (ages 7 and up) and families, take a nature adventure with a National Park Ranger in the wilds of Great Kills Park. Bring binoculars and a camera if you have, drinking water, sun and insect protection, and wear sturdy shoes. For information, call (718) 354 – 4500. *(1.5 miles)*

## **July**

### **Staten Island OutLOUD:**

#### **Declaration of**

#### **Independence**

Fort Wadsworth  
Scenic Overlook  
Sunday, July 4

3 p.m.

Celebrate Independence Day with Staten Island OutLOUD for their annual reading of the Declaration of Independence and the Bill of Rights. Bring a lawn chair. Rain or shine, for more information call (718) 907 – 0709.

### **Junior Ranger:**

#### **Fun with Fiddler Crabs**

Great Kills Park  
Education Field Station  
Saturday, July 9

2 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Join a park ranger for some fun with the ‘clowns’ of the crab world. Watch their antics, and even get to hold one in your hand. Learn about their crab culture, and how they survive in the salt marsh. Children ages 7 and up are invited to participate in this indoor program.

### **Junior Ranger:**

#### **Take a Hike ♥**

Great Kills Park  
Education Field Station  
Wednesday, July 13

1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Junior Rangers (ages 7 and up) and families, take a nature adventure with a National Park Ranger in the wilds of Great Kills Park. Bring binoculars and a camera if you have, drinking water, sun and insect protection, and wear sturdy shoes. For information, call (718) 354 – 4500. *(1.5 miles)*

#### **Walk-A-Thon ♥**

Miller Field Ranger Station  
Thursday & Friday, July 14 & 15

10 a.m. – 1 p.m.  
Walk the Staten Island Unit of Gateway with a park ranger and learn some history as you go. The walk will begin at Miller Field and end at Ft. Wadsworth. All ages are welcome. *(2.5 miles)*

### **Staten Island OutLOUD:**

#### **Bessie Coleman Aviator**

#### **Pioneer**

Miller Field Ranger Station  
Saturday, July 23

3 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Join Staten Island OutLOUD for a community reading on the life of Bessie Coleman, the first African American female pilot.

#### **Family Campfire**

Miller Field Ranger Station  
Saturday, July 23

7:30 p.m. – 10:30 p.m.

Join park rangers for an evening around a roaring campfire. Bring a blanket.

#### **Shorebird Walk**

Great Kills Park  
Parking Lot A  
Wednesday, July 27

11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Join Ed Johnson, Director of Sciences at the Staten Island Museum, for a morning observing migrating shorebirds at the "Salt Flats" at Great Kills Park. For information, call (718) 727 – 1135.

### **Staten Island OutLOUD:**

#### **Moby Dick**

Fort Wadsworth Scenic  
Overlook

Saturday, July 30  
6:30 p.m.

Join Staten Island OutLOUD for their annual community reading from Herman Melville’s “Moby Dick,” while visiting the place that Melville loved and visited often. Maritime music will be provided by the Staten Island Philharmonic Orchestra. Rain or shine. Bring a lawn chair. For more information, call (718) 907 – 0709.

## **August**

### **Fishing Clinic**

Wolfs Pond Park  
Wednesday, August 3

11 a.m. – 1 p.m.  
The National Park Service and the NYS DEC partner up for this hands-on fishing workshop for kids. Children must be accompanied by an adult. For reservations, call (718) 987 – 6790.

### **Volleyball 6-on-6**

#### **Tournament ♥**

Great Kills Park Beach Center  
Saturday’s, August 6 & 13

10 a.m. – 5 p.m.  
Enjoy a morning of bumping, setting, and spiking. This tournament is free or all. Boys and girls teams are welcome to register. For more information, call (718) 351 – 6970.

#### **Family Campfire**

Miller Field Ranger Station  
Saturday, August 13

7:30 p.m. – 10:30 p.m.

Join park rangers for an evening around a roaring campfire. Bring a blanket.

#### **Secret Places of**

#### **Fort Wadsworth ♥**

Fort Wadsworth Visitor Center  
Sunday, August 14

1 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Join a park ranger for a tour of areas off the beaten trail. Wear sturdy footwear; bring a flashlight and camera. Reservations required, call (718) 354 – 4500. *(1 mile)*

## Ecology Walk: Shorebirds, Etc.

Great Kills Park  
Sunday, August 14  
3 p.m. – 5 p.m.

The “Salt Flats” at Great Kills is Staten Island’s hotspot for migrating shorebirds and waders. Come and enjoy an afternoon watching and learning how the group of birds feeds and flies on their way to southern realms for the winter months. Meet in Lot A along Buffalo St.

## Junior Ranger: Tales of the Lenape

Great Kills Park  
Education Field Station  
Saturday, August 20  
2 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Children ages 7 and up are invited to listen to age old stories told by the Lenni Lenape, a Native American tribe which lived on Staten Island. Hear some words from their language and learn how they lived in harmony with their environment. An indoor story telling will be followed by a short outdoor activity.

## Junior Ranger: Take a Hike ♥

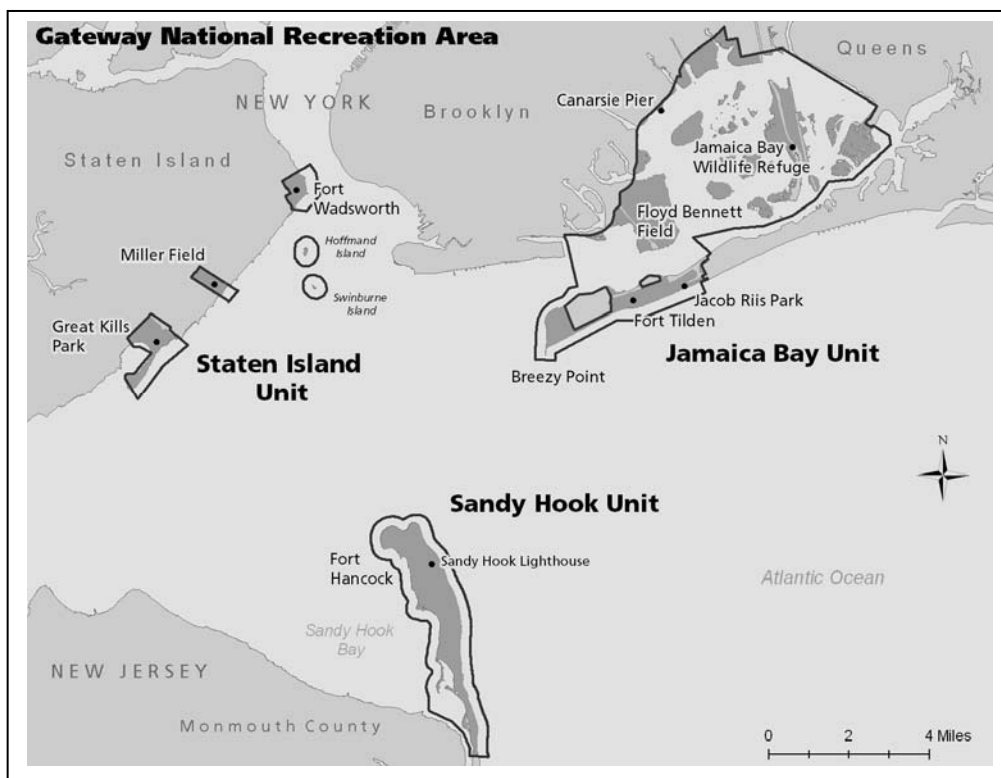
Fort Wadsworth Visitor Center  
Thursday, August 25  
1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Junior Rangers (ages 7 and up) and family take a nature and history adventure with a National Park Ranger in the wilds of Fort Wadsworth. Bring binoculars and a camera if you have, drinking water, sun and insect protection; wear sturdy shoes. For information, call (718) 354 – 4500. (2 miles)

## Founders Day Campfire Great Kills Park Beach Center Parking Log G

Thursday, August 25  
7 p.m. – 10 p.m.

Celebrate the National Park Service’s 95<sup>th</sup> Birthday around a campfire with music and marshmallows. Bring beach chairs or towels.



Serving the Visitors to America's  
National Parks and Other Public Trusts

There are four Eastern National Bookstores located in the park – at Floyd Bennett Field, Fort Wadsworth, the Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge and Sandy Hook. The shops offer items that can help you remember your visit and learn about other sites in the national park system. Plus, purchases made at the Eastern National outlets help to financially support park programs. Support your park, while you shop. Stop in on your next visit.

## Why do we ask for reservations?

The National Park Service asks for reservations on many programs for a variety of reasons. While we do our best to accommodate everyone, group size on some programs may be limited. This could be due to capacity on boats or other vehicles, or to minimize impact on the environment. Additionally, some programs may have to be cancelled, or changed due to issues beyond our control, such as severe weather. When planning to attend a park program, please call ahead.

## Call for Volunteers!

Gateway is seeking people interested in joining the Volunteer In Parks program. Gateway offers volunteers a wide variety of opportunities for service. These include assisting with public and education programming, visitor center operations, natural resource management, and recreational activities.

